

Remarks

The various parts of the Office Action (and other matters, if any) are discussed below under appropriate headings.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that the subject-matter of claims 4, 5, 7-9, 13 and 15 would be allowable if re-written in independent form.

Claims 1 and 11, as the independent claims, have been amended to incorporate the subject-matter of claim 7, which the Examiner indicated to be allowable, with claim 1 additionally incorporating the subject-matter of claim 2 and claim 11 additionally incorporating the subject-matter of claim 12.

Accordingly, all of the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Election/Restrictions

It is noted that claim 14 has been withdrawn from consideration, for reason of there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Claim 14 is dependent upon claim 3, which in turn is dependent upon claim 1, and on this basis it is understood that claim 14 would be re-considered in the event of claim 1 being considered allowable.

IDS

An information disclosure statement is being submitted concurrently herewith.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, request is made for timely issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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